Record Number of Students Accept ILG Bids This Rush

By Hyun Soo Kim

A record number of freshly accepted bids from fraternities and coed living groups this year, with 401 freshmen pledging by 2 p.m. yesterday. According to Clearinghouse Committee Chair Daniel J. Dunn '95, the former record for accepted bids was set in 1988.

"We probably had the best rush in four or five years," said Michael J. Daley '95 of Delta Tau Delta.

"The weather cooperated, and people worked hard," he said. "I think overall it was an outstanding rush, but there's always going to be a couple of disappointed houses," said Neal H. Dorow, assistant dean and advisor to fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups.

Many houses closed early, for example, Sigma Chi closed at 9:55 a.m. Monday. "There’s always going to be a couple of disappointed houses," said Neal H. Dorow, assistant dean and advisor to fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups.

The Tech's housing system is approximately 140 student rooms, and the crowding levels are both lower than expected for this year and lower than they were in the 90s." The show was a mandatory rush. We had eight summer rush parties, and many personal.

Independent Living Group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bids Accepted</th>
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<tr>
<td>Alpha Delta Phi</td>
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<td>Alpha Xi Delta</td>
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<td>Beta Theta Phi</td>
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<td>Phi Phi</td>
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<td>Delta Kappa Epsilon</td>
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<td>Delta Phi</td>
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<td>Delta Upsilon</td>
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<td>Epsilon Theta</td>
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<td>Phi Delta Sigma</td>
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<td>Phi Delta Theta</td>
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<td>Phi Gamma Delta</td>
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<td>Phi Kappa Sigma</td>
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<td>Phi Kappa Theta</td>
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<td>Phi Sigma Kappa</td>
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<td>Phi Kappa Pi</td>
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<td>Sigma Chi</td>
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<td>Sigma Phi Epsilon</td>
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<td>Theta Xi</td>
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"Many ILGs exceed targets". Many houses have not exceed their targets as of last night: Delta Theta Phi, Alpha Epsilon Pi, Alpha Tau Omega, Delta Kappa Epsilon, Delta Tau Delta, Lambda Chi Alpha, Phi Delta Epsilon, Phi Sigma Kappa, Sigma Kappa, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Sigma Chi, Upsilon, Lambda Chi Alpha, Zeta Beta Tau, and Zeta Phi.

ADP exceeded its goal by nine freshmen, and Rush Chair Milhern C. Mathew '95. "The quality of people going through was great. Everyone jumped on our bids. Last year was successful, but this year was incredible for us," he said. SAE did not rush with a specific target in mind, said Rush Chair David M. Sukoff '95. "Our goal was to get every single quality freshman there, and we did," he said. "We don't even consider numbers, we don't care if we are overcrowded, we just take everyone who is cool."

"We just pack them in. The freshmen don't mind because they are so happy to be here," Sukoff added.

Summer rush gave some fraternity heads a start. "That was really well; freshmen were much more informed this year," said ATO member John J. S. Park '95. "A lot of houses stepped up our rush, and a lot of freshmen knew what to look for."

P&K Rush Chair Brian L. Petersen '96 said, "We had a great rush. It all started with a good summer rush. We had eight summer rush parties, and many personal.

Frosh Move into Final Rooms

By Daniel C. Stevenson

Final results are in for this year’s dormitory housing lottery, and the crowding levels are both lower than expected for this year, and lower than they were last year, according to Andrew M. Eisenmann ‘70, associate dean for residence and campus activities.

The housing system is approximately 90 students over capacity, compared to 195 students at this time last year, Eisenmann said. Historically, the housing system is "trending in the right direction," Eisenmann said, but the numbers are still larger than the RCA would prefer.

The new Alpha Chi Omega house and the annex to McCormick Hall took care of about 50 extra students, Eisenmann said. Additionally, "Rush has been going very well," and many students are pledging living groups, he said.

Fifty-five new students were assigned to Senior House, compared to 47 last year. Senior House, which had in the past been a low housing choice for many students, was renovated over the summer, Eisenmann said. "My hope and my expectation is that it has been more attractive to all students," he said.

No crowded lounges, quints

"I don’t think we’ve had an unwieldy room for quite a long time," said New House Resn Chair Lisa-Maria Brittan '95. At least half of the double rooms in New House will be crowded into triples, Brittan said.

Housing, Page 15

Welcome, Parents

Institute will resume. Copies of the newspaper will no longer be delivered to independent living groups.

Tolerance,

In the 90s." The show was a mandatory rush. We had eight summer rush parties, and many personal.

By Eva Moc

Karen Williams, the self-proclaimed "black, lesbian mom comic," spoke to a near-capacity crowd in Rm. 157 of the Student Union last night at 7:30 p.m. in a show entitled "Dealing with Difference — Humor in Life." The show was a mandatory event for new students.

Using experiences from her life, she spoke specifically about being a woman, an African American, and a lesbian. But she extended her message to all people: "I'm just a human being wanting to be loved, wanting to give love."

The 10:00 p.m. show, which was put on for opportunities, only had an audience of about 80 people.

At the first show Williams pointed out that while the audience felt comfortable with race and age, they were more nervous when she revealed that she was a lesbian, the "L-word.

"We live in a world where you’re not supposed to notice people are different," Williams said. When she wets up, she doesn’t notice that she’s black; she doesn’t notice that she’s a woman. "I'm just walking along being a human being." It’s all perspective," Williams said. "You just kind of get used to how you are, and think that everybody else is that way," But she asked, when you meet somebody who has been named Jose "are you going to give yourself the chance to know who Jose is" before making any judgments? Williams also touched on the lack of representation of minority groups in magazines and advertisements — minorities don’t eat, don’t bathe, don’t dress, and don’t shop, she said sarcastically.

Williams did concede that "straight white men get blamed for everything... but we want to make

Inside

• Highlights from the MCC seminar on how to buy a computer. Page 11
• Many thefts occur at nearby BU Hostel. Police continue to look for two suspects. Page 12
• Third annual City Days to take place today. Page 18

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Housing, Page 15

A student heads into Baker House with her luggage yesterday afternoon. Freshmen checked into their dormitories yesterday following the completion of dormitory and room assignments.

Welcome, Parents

The Tech

Today is The Tech's last daily issue. Starting Sept. 9, The Tech will resume normal Tuesday, Friday publication. Also starting Sept. 9, The Tech's normal distribution route, covering the entire Institute will resume. Copies of the newspaper will no longer be delivered to independent living groups.

Infrastructure, Page 11

• Many thefts occur at nearby BU Hostel. Police continue to look for two suspects. Page 12
• Third annual City Days to take place today. Page 18
A magnitude 7.2 earthquake struck Thursday off the Northwest Coast of California, causing widespread panic on the West Coast when the earthquake's epicenter was in the San Francisco area. But the quake was far enough east to see that no major damage occurred.

The 8:15 a.m. temblor was placed by the U.S. Geological Survey on the Mendocino fault about 90 miles west-southwest of Eureka. It was felt as a light one, without the fears that followed the 1906 earthquake, which was considered the most destructive earthquake in the state's history.

Despite the quake's epicenter under the Pacific, no tsunami or sea level changes were felt since the movement of the quake was horizontal rather than vertical.

The northern California city of Victoria, known for its Victorian-style homes and businesses, the quake shook just a few books from the library shelves but it did remind residents of the recent historical earthquake, which included a magnitude 7.1 temblor two years ago.

That large quake in 1992 and its aftereffects damaged homes, buildings and roads. Federal and state agencies and scientific studies in women that show the product works.

The quake struck at 8:15 p.m. with a 6.1 magnitude that was felt in Victoria, the largest in the last five years.

FDA Panel Withholds Nod On Breast Sensor Pad

By Stanley Meilner

NEW YORK

A Food and Drug Administration advisory panel Thursday recommended that the agency not approve the Sensor Pad, an experimental device designed to help women better detect breast lumps during self-examinations, pending further scientific studies in women that show the product works.

The panel is composed of five doctors and one patient who sided with the agency in its nine-year dispute with the company, a controversy that has involved FDA seizures of the product for illegal marketing to hospitals.

The pad is composed of two latex-like sheets with a liquid silicone lubricant in between which make up the breast pad. When placed on the breast, it enhances its tactile surface, much like using soap or body lotion, presumably making lumps easier to feel. It is expected to cost about $15 and, once approved, would be available without a prescription.

It is available in Europe and Asia but not in the United States, and has been tested by the device industry as a case study of the agency’s strong position to approve promising products to the market and protecting the public from inferior products, it has refused to approve the product until the manufacturer submits evidence that it is effective.

Senator John Breaux, D-Louisiana, has argued that the pad is intended as an adjunct to — and not a substitute for — traditional breast cancer detection methods and is not a cure.
IRA and Britain More Closely To Direct Peace Negotiations

By Steve Coll New York Times
BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND

Britain and the Irish Republican Army reached closer toward agreement on conditions for direct peace talks Thursday, but British officials said they were not yet fully convinced that the IRA's cease-fire declaration Wednesday was a pledge to end violence permanently.

The London government regards commitment to a permanent cease-fire as essential before a schedule for direct negotiations to end Northern Ireland's sectarian conflict can be set. The overwhelmingly Roman Catholic IRA has been engaged in a 25-year violent campaign to unseat Northern Ireland, where Protestants form a two-thirds majority, with the mostly Catholic Republic of Ireland to the south. Extremists on both sides of Northern Ireland's Protestant in turn have violently pursued their demand that the northern province remain part of Britain.

British Prime Minister John Major came under further pressure Thursday night after it was disclosed that British prison officials Thursday transferred four IRA prisoners - including two serving life sentences for a bombing attack in 1984 - to then-Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and other cabinet officials - from a prison in which the British maintained to one nearer to the terrorists' families in Northern Ireland.

British prison officials stressed that the decision to move the prisoners had been reached after careful public consideration, but some British officials and many Protestants in Northern Ireland expressed incredulity that IRA leaders have been willing thus far to utter the word "permanent" in reference to their declared cease-fire.

British officials and Irish Prime Minister Albert Reynolds reiterated tonight that no private deal of any kind had been made with the IRA to induce its landmark cease-fire.

The first day of that cease-fire passed quietly in the province as the parties to the conflict here, in London and in Dublin, appeared uncertain whether the wording of the IRA statement Wednesday, in which the outlawed group declared a "complete cessation of military operations," meant that the group and its supporters intended to give up their arms permanently.

Dublin already believes that the IRA has forsaken violence for good, but some British officials and many Protestants in Northern Ireland expressed incredulity that IRA leaders have been willing thus far to utter the word "permanent" in reference to their declared cease-fire.

Postal Service Reconsiders New Fee

WASHINGTON

For an agency that has tough delivery the mail on time, it seemed like the perfect solution. Businesses that wanted to get their mail early could stop by their local post office and get it for themselves.

But, in the midst of the Postal Service's current delivery crisis, agency officials decided to drop the service and said that after Oct. 2, businesses would have to pay for the privilege of not having their mail delivered.

When an S. Louis business executive complained about the proposed fee - approximately $400 a year - during a breakfast sponsored by the Postal Service, Elmar V. Dyhrkopp, a member of the House's Committee of Government Operations, responded: "I just don't make good sense," he said Thursday. Dyhrkopp demanded that agency offi- cials find out "what the hell is going on."

Postal officials testified that the idea is eminently fair - that it costs extra money for the postal workers to pull mail from a letter carrier's route and hand it to someone in a post office. There may be some savings by lightening the carrier's load and not having to step at a particular location, said Hank Cleffi, the agency's manager of mail fees standards, but "the carrier is delivering on either side of that address anyway."

Postal officials noted that the agency long has charged postal box holders for a service that allows them to get clerks to hand them their mail several times each day.

Even so, postal officials Thursday began to retreat from the idea, announcing the Postal Service would continue the fee "for the foreseeable future" until at least Sept. 15, 1995. Cleffi said that would give the agency more time to study the proposal. Officials could not say for certain Thursday how many businesses use the free service, but one spokesman estimated the number is probably in the "the thousands, probably five figures."

Case of Troubled 11-Year-Old Closes in Violence

WASHINGTON

Robert Sandifer's brief life is spelled out in the files of social workers and police officers here.

At 22 months he was carried into a local hospital with scurries and bruises inflicted by an adult. By the time he was 3 he was a ward of the court, and, by 5, he was arrested for armed robbery, the first of at least eight felony arrests.

Earlier this week he was identified by eyewitnesses as the gunman in the slaying of his 14-year-old neighbor, Shawn Deen, an innocent bystander in an apparently gun-related shooting spree. For three days he was the target of an intense police search.

Tuesday night they closed the final file on Robert Sandifer at the Cook County House - dead at age 11 by two execution-style bullets in the back of his head. His body - not quite 5 feet, not quite 70 pounds - was found face down under a railway viaduct close to his home in the city's far South Side.

Police suggested the same teenage gang members who had used Robert as their hit man apparently decided he was too hot to hide and knew too much to be allowed into custody.
*No, you can’t borrow this to flee the country with . . . now scram!*
Jim's Journal

Today Tony came by and I noticed he'd shaved off his beard.

He showed me a letter he got from a credit card company:

"It says, 'Dear valued customer, due to your excellent credit rating, blah, blah, a 9% interest rate and no annual fee.'"

Today Tony was filling out his credit card application.

He rattled off the categories he wrote in each one, like address, outstanding loans, etc.

When he was done he said, "I'll just put my John Hancock on this puppy..."

Then he slapped the sealed envelope on his hand and said, "Voila. Free money."

Math Review Nights

Workshops for students who want to review pre-calculus mathematics

September 7, 8, 9, 11, and 12 from 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Get help from friendly tutors!

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>Exponents, Logs &amp; Logics Numbers 4-109</td>
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<td>Pre-Calculus Open Workshop 1-102</td>
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What to do if you need help with your studies? Visit the Academic Resource Center (ARC) in the Atrium, 3-109, or the Undergraduate Math Office, 2-204.

Questions? Call the UAA at x3-3640 or x3-3003.

The Air Force is Hiring

Scholarships Now...

Sheryl Ott, a computer science scholarship senior at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is also a pilot candidate in the Air Force ROTC program. Rather than fighting today's tough job market after graduation, she will be training to fly the most advanced aircraft in the world. If this interests you, then consider one of AFROTC's two, three, or four year programs.

Unlimited Potential upon Graduation

For more information call Captain Bruce Tagg 253-4475

AIR FORCE

ROTC
Leadership Excellence Starts Here
The Arts

Natural Born Killers almost loses its message

Directed by Oliver Stone.
Written by David Veto, Richard Rasouli, and Oliver Stone: based on a story by Quentin Tarantino.

Starring Woody Harrelson, Juliette Lewis, Robert Downey Jr., Tommy Lee Jones, and Tom Sizemore.

Laws Chet.
By Scott Deskin
ASSOCIATE ARTS EDITOR

Make no mistake: Oliver Stone’s Natural Born Killers is one of the most violent films to grace the big screen in the last decade, and it stands as a cinematic testament next to such pioneers as Sam Peckinpah’s The Wild Bunch (1969) and Brian DePalma’s decadent Scarface (1983). However, where those earlier films sought to cast a serious pall of doom over the story, the new film revels in its hallucinogenic imagery and blood-spattered windshield. This is basically Stone’s attempt at a broad satire of modern society and the media, seen through the eyes of the murderous title characters, Mickey (Woody Harrelson) and Mallory (Juliette Lewis). Unlike True Romance, the last script based on a story by film auteur Quentin Tarantino, Natural Born Killers really does feel like “a Bonnie and Clyde for the 90s.” From the film’s opening scene, in which two couples massacre everyone at a road stop, to the wholesome sitcom content of the film’s denouement, where the killers decide to become tabloid writers, Stone’s film veers from chỗ with slowly moving images to a frenetic pace. If the film’s plot is a bit too predictable and the relationship between the title characters a bit too shallow, there is no denying that Stone’s film is a bold attempt at a broad satire of modern society. The film’s opening scene, in which two couples massacre everyone at a road stop, to the wholesome sitcom content of the film’s denouement, where the killers decide to become tabloid writers, Stone’s film veers from slow balladeer’s lament to hard rock templates her fate — while the music shifts from a slow balladeer’s lament to hard rock templates her fate — while the music shifts from a slow balladeer’s lament to hard rock templates her fate — while the music shifts from a slow balladeer’s lament to hard rock templates her fate — while the music shifts from a slow balladeer’s lament to hard rock templates her fate — while the music shifts from a slow balladeer’s lament to hard rock templates her fate — while the music shifts from a slow balladeer’s lament to hard rock templates her fate — while the music shifts from a slow balladeer’s lament to hard rock templates her fate — while the music shifts from "Tarantino," based on a story by film auteur Quentin Tarantino. The joyride continues with a flashback to Mallory’s past, presented as a demented sitcom (complete with laugh track) entitled “I Love Mallory.” Strange and visually gross as it is, we can see Mallory’s pain as a child of a family of dysfunction and sexual abuse. The casting of Rodney Dangerfield as Mallory’s father adds an extra bit of a laugh-track, compounded when his character spouts the witticism “stupid white” to his daughter, much to the delight of the mock studio audience. Her deliverance is achieved in the form of Mickey, a meteorynew buff, who rescues her from h ome-sweet-hell by budgingreen and downing her dad to death and setting her mom on fire. After that, both lovers run wild in their newfound freedom, killing and pillaging wherever they want. Once victims of the all-encompassing social order, they have temporarily taken a giant leap to the top of it. By this time, Mickey and Mallory have become media darlings, simultaneously exalted for their actions and worshipped for their individualism. A youth interviewed on the street claims to value human life, but he readily admits with his stalker friends, “If I were a serial killer, I would be Mickey and Mallory.” But we never really get to know what most of America thinks: The medium and the message is represented by slimy reporters like Wayne Gale (Robert Downey Jr.), host of a tabloid TV-show called Ameri- can Maniacs. He correts the blood-red, and he churns out the junk-food images upon which millions of Americans feed every day. Often, all his on-target criticism of the media machine, Stone fails to recognize that he is part of that same machine, producing and consuming the same tabloid trash that we all do, and when he adopts such a sanctimonious tone, it undercuts his message. Even more infuriating are the caricatures of law and order. The detective who tracks down Mickey and Mallory, Jack Sargent (Tom Sizemore), is a sadistic cop who becomes a best-selling novelist, detailing his life in crime. Warden McClosky (Tommy Lee Jones) is a ridiculously-drawn, fast-talking figure of authority, kind of an evil relative of the Kramer character from TV’s Seinfeld. Both actors play their roles with cartoonish, over-the-top flamboyance, while the film doesn’t really allow much room for subdued, subdued performances. In fact, the killers themselves may be the most realistically drawn characters in the whole film. At the end, they find that their love can transcend their petty mortal limitations, or, as Mickey puts it, “Love beats the..."

Given what was required of them, all the actors — especially Harrelson and Lewis — gave remarkably n o r m a l performances. I think the trick that Stone was aiming to pull off in this film, a satire on violence and the exploitation of the American media, was narrowly achieved in this movie. However, Stone’s ego and general ten- dency toward cinematic spectacle deepen the impact of the film’s mes- sage. The audacious camera style and clever editing may thrill the audience for awhile, but, by the film’s end things have become an out-of-control (that the audience can’t be sure who was the target of Stone’s argument in the first place. It may secure a spot next to films like Bonnie and Clyde, but its general feticism and lack of focus automatically dooms it to a more visceral and less cerebral future, making it a logical bedtime treat for the MTV generation.

If your answer is YES, or if your arts interests lie elsewhere, the Grants Program of the Council for the Arts at MIT wants to help!

Next deadline: Wednesday, September 14.

The Grants Program of the Council for the Arts was established to support extracurricular arts projects at MIT. All currently registered students, staff and faculty of MIT are eligible to apply for funding. Projects should be geared primarily toward the involvement of the MIT community.

Call 253-2372 for information, or drop by the Office of the Arts (E15-205) to pick up Grants Guidelines and application forms.
***** Blue
The first film in a trilogy by director Krzysztof Kieslowski deals with a widow (Juliette Binoche) coming to terms with the death of her composer husband and daughter in a car accident. Her recovery, both physical and emotional, carries added emotional resonance when she deals with the important unfinished symphony that was her husband's work and eventually proves the key to her independence. This film has nober overtones, but Binoche is a gem as the young woman trying to regain control over her life in the face of new relationships and romances. Kieslowski makes a characteristically strong statement here; the two other films in the trilogy are White (reviewed below) and Red. — Scott Deskins. Brattle Theatre; Friday, Sept. 2 through Sunday, Sept. 4.

***** Jurassic Park
Michael Crichton's dinosaur epic translates well to the big screen (not surprising given that the book read like a screenplay), and Steven Spielberg does a good job in metamorphosing the dinosaurs from harmless cuties to malevolent predators. Despite fine acting from Sam Neill and Laura Dern as an archaeologist and his paleobotanist girlfriend, the dinosaurs, both animatronic and computer-generated, are clearly meant to be the stars of the film. Most realistic of the menagerie is the stuck tourists licking on her sole; least, the herd of gazers that stampede across a field as Neill and two children run for cover. It's good to see Neill, a talented actor and star of many British and Australian films (including My Brilliant Career) and Dern, who finally started to get plum roles after her success in Running Brave, yet the exposure they so richly deserve. Jurassic Park isn't slick filmmaking, but its individual elements add up to make it a whirlwind, entertaining ride. — Deborah A. Levinson. L.B.U. Monday.

The Lion King
Disney's newest animated feature is amazing. The story — a lion cub runs away, fearing that he is responsible for his father's death — is simple enough for children to understand, yet still entertaining for adults. The animation is first-rate, including both computer and traditional hand-drawn graphics mixed to perfection. And, in the tradition of Aladdin, Beauty & the Beast, and The Little Mermaid, the music is superb. Finally, the characters of The Lion King are some of the most memorable of all the recent Disney cartoons. All in all this is one of the best Disney films. — Patrick Mahoney. Loews Copley Place.

Speed
Keanu Reeves stars as Los Angeles SWAT team member Jack Traven, who effectively becomes a hero when he incurs the wrath of Howard Payne (Denis Hopper), a mad bomber who seeks to extort money from the city. With every great action vehicle, there has to be a gimmick: Payne has wired a transit bus with explosives that become armed when the bus exceeds 50 miles per hour, and will detonate if the bus dips below that speed. After that, it's up to Jack, along with a perky damsel on the bus (Sandra Bullock) and Jack's expendable partner Harry (Jeff Daniels), to save the day. If all this sounds rather corny, rest assured that director Jan De Bont (former cinematographer who shot Die Hard) knows his action pictures well, and keeps Speed going at a frenetic pace. The dialogue is patchy and the characters are pretty simplistic, but the real drama is carried by the thrilling stuntwork and explosions. Plus, the New Yorker called Speed the "movie of the year." What more could anyone ask of a no-brainer action film? — SD. Loews Cinemas 57.

32 Short Films About Gonzes Gould
This film really is what the title says: a series of 32 films, ranging in length from 45 seconds to between 10 and 15 minutes. A brilliant pianist, the eccentric Gould was known for his insightful interpretations of J.S. Bach's work, and this film is full of Bach-like preludes and fugues, some subtle and some bold, but all fascinating. Styles vary as much as length; there are dramatized scenes from Gould's life, interviews with friends and relatives, and avant-garde selections that explore Gould's music in the cinematic art form. Some of these experimental pieces seem aimless, but the joy of sitting in a darkened theater listening to Gould playing Bach or Hinc- dominch is more than enough to sustain these few moments of visual emptiness. This is an thorough outline of a man's life as can be presented in two hours, and it is clearly dis- guised as total fiction. At the end of the film, you will be surprised to find that in addition to having had a wonderful time, you have learned something. — Ann Anves. Brattle Theatre; Friday, Sept. 2 through Sunday, Sept. 4.

Jurassic Park
Director Steven Spielberg's latest action-adventure-comedy casts him as Harry Tanker, a top-secret government agent who hides his real identity from his wife, Helen (Jamie Lee Curtis), who thinks he is a computer sales- man. That premise is no less believable than any of the other plot twists, which primarily involves the efforts of Middle Eastern terrorists of the "Crimson Jihad" (Art Malik) to hold America hostage with some nuclear warheads. The special effects are pretty impressive, considering the shallowness of the final product — including some silly scenes with Harrier jets and exploding bridges — which seems to be a direct counterpart to the exiguous aper- effing of editor James Cameron's last effort, Terminator 2. But most of the movie drugs between its main action sequences, especially some dumb plot involving an affair between Helen and Simon (Bill Paxton), a man pretending to be a spy. The film is par- tially redeeming by the eye-gouging performance of Tom Arnold as Harry's sidekick, but most of the performances seem forced. — SD. Loews Chori.

****½ White
The second film in director Krzysztof Kieslowski's trilogy focuses on the exploits of Karol Karol (Zbigniew Zamachowski), a Polish man. That premise is no less believable than any of the other plot twists, which primarily involves the efforts of Middle Eastern terrorists of the "Crimson Jihad" (Art Malik) to hold America hostage with some nuclear warheads. The special effects are pretty impressive, considering the shallowness of the final product — including some silly scenes with Harrier jets and exploding bridges — which seems to be a direct counterpart to the exiguous aper- effing of editor James Cameron's last effort, Terminator 2. But most of the movie drugs between its main action sequences, especially some dumb plot involving an affair between Helen and Simon (Bill Paxton), a man pretending to be a spy. The film is par- tially redeeming by the eye-gouging performance of Tom Arnold as Harry's sidekick, but most of the performances seem forced. — SD. Loews Chori.

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Comedy

Imaginary Images of Newton, by Eric Myrvang, is being shown at the Newton Free Library through September 4th.

Exhibits

46 Pleasant St., Cambridge. Sept. 8-28.

253-4254. Presentation of the Stone Center's musical book was at history it most renowned assassins.

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Seminar Teaches Students How to Buy a Computer

By Eric Richard

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

The MIT Computer Connection invited parents and incoming freshmen to a seminar yesterday entitled "Know About Buying a Computer (But Were Afraid to Ask)." The seminar was designed to inform new students about the computer-related resources on campus and to help them make the decisions needed to buy a new computer.

There are a common set of questions which many freshmen ask:

- "Whatare you going to use your computer for? Are there specific software packages that you want to run?"
- "Should I buy a PC or a Macintosh?"
- "Can I connect my computer to Athena?" - according to Jeffrey R. Solof, manager of the MCC. "Our hope is that we can answer these common questions for a large audience."

Solof and Virginia G. Williams, assistant manager for customer communications and marketing for the MCC, gave three one-hour presentations throughout the day. The two sought to answer the audience's questions and explain the technical terminology used in the computer retail business.

The seminar "certainly added some possibilities into consideration," said Cory and Steve Wein, parents of Deborah M. Weinstein '98. "We are trying to figure their products."

For people who are interested in talking with various vendor representatives, the MCC will be sponsoring the Back to School '94 Computer Expo today. Eight vendors, including Apple and IBM, will be on hand to answer questions about their products.

The event will take place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in 10-165.

Answering buyers' questions

In order to make the buying process less complicated, Williams suggested questions which can narrow down the number of choices a buyer has to look at.

"When buying a computer, you want to think about your personal experience with computers," Williams said. "Did you like what you had before? What do you think you are going to use your computer for? Are there specific software packages that you want to run?"

Williams also suggested looking at the systems that other students are using to help in the decision. "What sort of computer does your roommate use? What do other students in your concentration use?" she said.

"If you are using the same thing as everyone around you, it may be easier to get help, Solof said.

Timing a significant issue

The timing of a purchase can also be important, Williams said. Prices fluctuate based on the time of year and on when new technology is introduced, she said.

"When a new computer is announced, it will be at its highest price, and availability may be an issue," Williams said.

"Technology gets faster and cheaper all the time," Solof said.

In addition, because the computer industry moves so quickly, many potential buyers are fearful of buying a machine which will soon be obsolete, Solof said. "It seems like every six months, [the industry] releases a new version of the machine you just bought," he said.

While Williams said that waiting is an option, Solof urged buyers to commit to a purchase at some point.

"If you wait forever, you'll get the fastest machine and it won't cost anything, but you won't get anything done until you actually buy a machine."

However, Solof suggested that through proper planning, buyers can avoid this problem. "Having the capability for expansion is one way to find out that feeling," he said.

Potential buyers should be aware of the amount of memory, disk space, and expansion slot that a new machine can support. "You want to think about how much your computer can grow," Solof said.

In addition, "you really do want to shop around for the best deal in terms of features and support," Williams said.

Technical decisions to make

One of the most important questions for any buyer is which type of machine they want, Solof said. Generally, users must select between PC-compatible or Macintosh machines, although other options are available.

"If you are brave, Linux might be something to consider," Solof said. Linux is a piece of publicly available software which allows users to run the Unix operating system on PC-compatible machines.

"There is a critical mass of both [PC-based and Macintosh machines] that you can't go wrong" with, Solof said. "It is really up to your personal comfort level."

One of the first decisions to make is which processor to choose. "Right now, if I were buying a PC, I wouldn't buy anything less than a 486DX machine," Solof said. "If I were buying a Macintosh, I would buy at least a 68040-based machine."

"These machines will do all the basics and provide a reasonable life span," Solof said.

In terms of memory, Solof recommended at least 8 megabytes of RAM, especially for Macintosh systems. "You are barely going to eek that out which units will be compatible with, Solof said. "It is really up to your personal comfort level."

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MIT Music Group Auditions

MIT Brass Ensemble
Rehearsals: Tuesday, Thursday, 5-7pm, Killian Hall. Auditions: Thursday, September 8, 5pm. Bring prepared solo.

MIT Chamber Music Society
Auditions: Wednesday, September 7, 7pm, Killian Hall. Solo piece required of new members.

MIT Concert Band
Rehearsals: Monday 5:30-7:30pm, Wednesday 8-10pm, Kresge. First Meeting and Auditions: Wednesday, September 7, 8pm. Bring prepared solo.

MIT Concert Choir
Rehearsals: Monday, Thursday, 6:30-8pm, Room 2-190. Auditions: Thursday, September 7, 6-8pm. Bring prepared solo.

MIT Concert Jazz Band
Rehearsals: Saturday, 10-1pm, Kresge. Auditions: Wednesday, September 7, 5:30pm, Kresge. Solos encouraged, sight-reading from jazz book required.

MIT Festival Jazz Ensemble
Rehearsals: Sunday, 7-10pm, Tuesday, 8-10pm, Wednesday 9-10pm, Kresge. Auditions: Saturday, September 8, 1pm. Improvisation preferred, sight-reading from jazz book required.

MIT Symphony Orchestra
Rehearsals: Tuesday, Thursday, 7:30-10pm, Kresge. First meeting: Thursday, September 8 at 7:30pm. Reading through symphonic literature and audition sign up.

MIT Chamber Chorus
Rehearsals: Tuesday, Thursday, 9-10am, Killian Hall. Auditions: Thursday, September 8, 9am. Bring prepared solo.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE CONCERTS OFFICE AT 253-2826.

BU Thefts Serve as Warning to Students

By Jeremy Hylton

Boston University police are looking for two suspects involved in a number of thefts at a BU-owned youth hostel on Beacon Street. The MIT Campus Police issued a bulletin last week to alert students to the possibility of thefts this time of year, according to Police Chief Anne F. Glavin.

"This is a big time of year for theft," Glavin said.

However, Glavin was not aware of any thefts involving MIT fraternity activities in Boston. Nor have there been any similar thefts on campus, she said.

The thefts at the youth hostel involved suspects who gained entrance to the hostel by claiming to be looking for a guest. Once inside the hostel, the suspects would break into a room and steal whatever they could, according to Detective Steven Giacoppo of the BU Police.

"It's a kind of a laid-back attitude (at the hostel), so people come and go," Giacoppo said. "Sometimes these people just piggyback in with someone and they just take what they can."

Because the suspects entered the rooms without permission, they would be charged with both larceny and breaking and entering, Giacoppo said.

One suspect is described as a 70-year-old white male, 6 feet tall, weighing about 170 pounds, according to the Campus Police bulletin. He has a medium complexion, brown hair, and brown eyes.

The Campus Police crime prevention unit also made several suggestions:

• Report suspicious activities in Boston by calling 911.
• Keep all exterior doors locked, and do not prop doors open when carrying things in and out.
• Beware of tailgaters and strangers looking for residents of your house.
• Windows, particularly those on the first floor and on fire escapes, should be equipped with locks that allow ventilation but do not allow the window to be opened for someone to crawl through.

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MIT Computer Connection, Student Center, W20-021
253-7868, mcc@mit.edu
City Days Festival Promotes Outreach

By Stacey E. Blau

MIT’s third annual City Days Festival kicks off today. Approximately 450 Cambridge-area fourth, fifth, and sixth graders will visit the MIT campus for a day of educational and fun activities run by student volunteers and City Days Coordinator Tracy F. Purinton. In addition, about 150 MIT students will be trekking into other parts of the city to take part in helping Cambridge-area organizations, she said.

Today’s program, entitled City Days: A Two-Way Street, is the first part of the Public Service Center’s year-long effort to get students involved in service to the Cambridge community, Purinton said. “The City Days Festival is really just the beginning of City Days. It’s a way for us to generate interest in public service programs right at the start, especially for freshmen,” she said.

Freshmen and some upperclassmen will be hosting the City Days program on-campus. Activities for the visiting children will range from kitchen chemistry to jello-snarfing to a mini-carnival at East Campus; in addition, laboratories will be offering tours as well as some demonstrations, Purinton said. The MIT Laboratory will be conducting a virtual reality game, while the Laboratory for Electronic and Electromagnetic Systems will run its “MITEE Mouse” demonstration, in which a microprocessor-controlled mechanical mouse escapes from a maze, she said.

Freshmen in independent living groups had the choice of whether they would like part in the on-campus program or the off-campus program, Purinton said. “It worked out this way because only a limited number of students could be in the off-campus program,” she said. The approximately 150 MIT students heading into Cambridge for the day will be visiting several public service agencies in the local area, Purinton said. The participating organizations will be hosting brief tours providing information on the services that they provide to the Cambridge community, and students will be able to see which organizations they might be interested in working with regularly. The YMCA, the Cambridge Furniture Bank, and the Cambridge Youth Project are some of the agencies that are planning to take part in the City Days Festival, she said.

Cambridge parents are enthusiastic about the City Days Festival, according to Purinton. Parent JoAnne Ackman called the program “a wonderful gesture to the community and a great way to break the end-of-summer boredom.”

In previous years, the City Days Festival was a two-day event, with the Cambridge and MIT students’ events on different days, Purinton said. This year’s City Days Festival has been condensed into a one-day event “because of where Labor Day fell on the calendar this year,” she said.

The City Days Festival is really just the beginning of City Days. It’s a way for us to generate interest in public service programs right at the start, especially for freshmen,” she said.

Recent graduate student picnic, various other graduate student orientation activities are taking place this upcoming week, including a day hike and an evening boat cruise.
New Clearinghouse Detects More Rush Violations

Rush, from Page 1

contacts and phone calls.”

Record rush violations

An unprecedented number of rush violations have been recorded by the Interfraternity Council, said Dunn, who is also the IFC judicial Committee Chair. “None are particularly vindictive,” he said.

The new Clearinghouse software helped keep track of freshmen, because the houses could input information using MITnet instead of calling it in over the phone, Dorow said. “It made rush less stressful for many rush chairs.”

The MIT Museum Shop proudly presents:

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A Study in Mixed Media Earth Tones, Number Three. Realized by James Tetazoo on December, 1984 this hack caused a sensation upon its unveiling at the List Visual Arts Gallery at a late night ceremony.

The MIl Committee Chair. "None are partic-

ularly vindictive," he said.

Freshmen delay pledging

"Rush is going on while orient-

ation is going on (which) causes a lot of troubles for IILGs and doesn’t help turnout in many of the events,” said Pi Lambda Phi Rush Chair Mark A. Herschberg ’95. He added that more rush activities ended later in the week, as freshmen took more time to make a more informed decision. Some rush chairs felt there were fewer men in the freshman class.

"It seemed like this year less freshmen were randomly stopping by. We had to go out and actively meet them," said Theta Chi Rush Chair Jason A. Dick ’96. Theta Chi felt slightly short of its goal this year. Some houses, like ZBT, simply had bad luck with their events. Taking over 70 freshmen on a trip to play paintball, they arrived to find their target was hitting ed and their targets. Rush Chair Robert O. Grimm ’95 of Delta Phi, also known as No. 6 Club, refused to divulge any statistics on its rush because of house policy.

No rush chairs were reluctant to reveal the number of bids extend-

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4. Cartoon brother in the seat next to you.
2. Anyone with a creepy disposition and a mustache.
1. People who offer you drugs.

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This space donated by The Tech.
A student receives the key to her room in McCormick Hall from the desk worker during freshman check-in.

Dorms Less Crowded This Year

**New Student Housing Assignments after Second Round**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dormitory</th>
<th>1993 total</th>
<th>1994 total</th>
<th>men</th>
<th>women</th>
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<td>Bexley Hall</td>
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<td>Burton House</td>
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<tr>
<td>East Campus</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MacGregor House</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>37</td>
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<tr>
<td>McCormick Hall</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>46</td>
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<td>Senior House</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Special Assignments**

- Chocolate City: 10, 7, 3, 4
- French House: 6, 7, 3
- German House: 6, 2
- Russian House: 5, 3
- Spanish House: 6, 1, 3

**Requirements:**

- People with serious diseases, mental disorders, or psychiatric problems are not advised to accept other dormitories.

**Statistics from Residence and Campus Activities:**

For example, "the problem is not the students themselves, it's the system," said Silvana B. Palacios of MIT's Relations Committee, gave incomparable results. Eisenmann said. It was easier for the RCA and "it worked out so it was easier for the students too," he said.

**Housing, from Page 1**

New House has three fewer new students this year than last, she said. At Baker House, however, "we've been much less crowded," said Neile Y. Fong, '96. Baker room chair. Some Baker triples were crowded into quadruples, but no triples were filled into quints, she said.

Similarly, no MacGregor House lounges will be converted into doubles, Eisenmann said.

"Last year it was really chaotic," Fong said. "People were homeless for a while." The new computerized housing lottery helped a great deal with dormitory housing, she said.

"I think that the new lottery system was well-received," Eisenmann said. It was easier for the RCA and "it worked out so it was easier for the students too," he said.

"We must get as much information as we can," she said. "I don't know whether to accept other dormitories." Eisenmann said. All requests for transfers should be resolved one way or another by the end of next week, he said.

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**Williams, from Page 1**

sure that everyone at MIT has a voice.

Although she talked about sensitive topics, Williams also used comic relief to make the audience more comfortable with her. While describing the tomatoes in the Midwest, she paused to say, "It's politically correct to use black to describe tomatoes.

"You're proud at MIT because you can embrace nerddom," she said. "People here are nerdy. In France, it's much more common America to France, his native country, she said. "I worked out so it was easier for the RCA and it worked out so it was easier for the students too," he said.

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The Daily Confusion  
Friday, September 2, 1994

Activities
6:00p: Science Fiction Society. Do you love science fiction? Do you have any interest in joining MIT's Science Fiction Society? (MITSF)? This monthly meeting features a variety of fic-related activities, such as game nights, movie nights, and discussion sessions. Even if you've never read a science fiction book in your life, you'll still have a lot of fun! (We've got x-ray and diagnostic testing, as well as full medical specialties, as well as full medical specialties, as well as full x-ray, diagnostic testing, and laboratory facilities.)

6:30p: Ritual Services - Both Orthodox and Conservative prayer services will be held in the Student Center.

6:00p: Christian Student Union. Join us for a special event featuring a speaker from a local church. We ask that you please join us for this special occasion. We invite you to stay for a meal and participate in our weekly meeting.

6:00p: Korean Student Association. Chazan Zvi Schwartz will be on hand to provide a special prayer service. Join us for a special evening of reflection and prayer.

6:00p: MIT Press (or welcome back). The MIT Press welcomes you back to campus! Stop by and visit our bookstore to browse a selection of the latest books and publications.

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five facts from mit medical

fact
Even if you've waived MIT's insurance, most MIT Medical services are still free if you're a registered MIT student.

fact
We're always open for urgent care: 24 hours a day, every day.

fact
We assign each new student a personal physician to coordinate their healthcare at MIT. Your doctor can help keep you healthy, treat your illnesses, and give you advice when you want it.

fact
All our care is confidential. We won't release your medical records unless you tell us to.